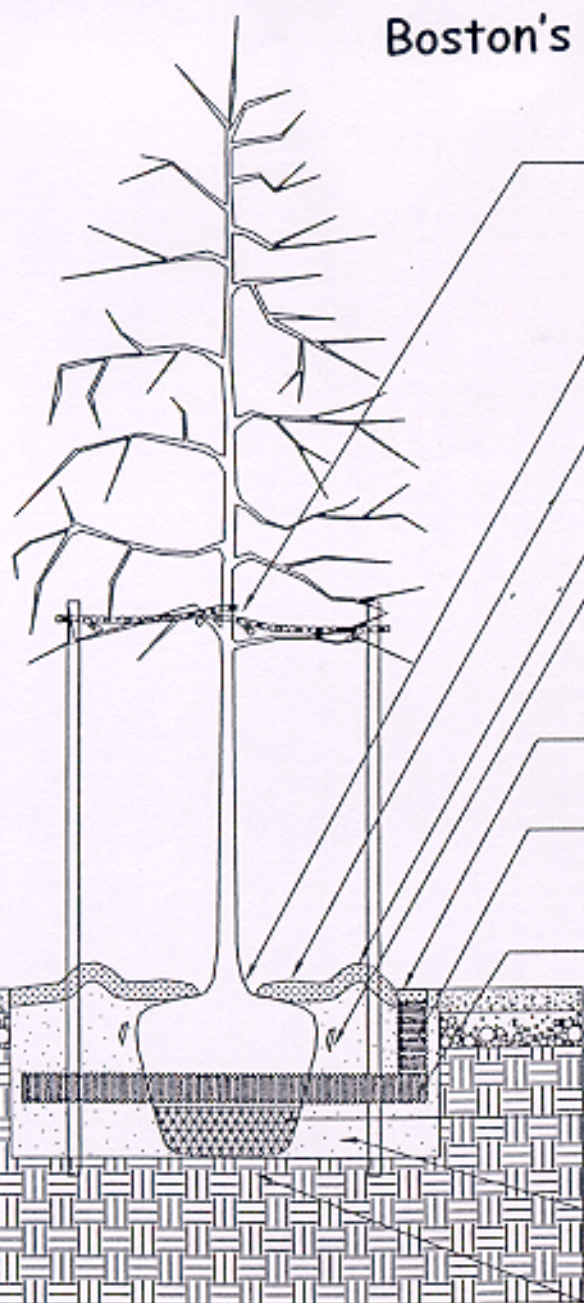


Boston's Typical Street-Tree Pit



Stakes and guys are removed from the tree one year after planting. Guys that are left in place can girdle a tree.

The root flare is set 2" above the finished grade of the sidewalk. This allows oxygen to reach the roots.

A 3" layer of mulch is added to retain moisture in the soil. If mulch is mounded against the tree trunk, the bark can rot.

A saucer is formed around the tree trunk to allow rainwater to soak the root area.

Slow-release fertilizer packs are added to the tree pit during planting.

Water your tree by pouring 10 gallons of water once per week into the black PVC drain grate protruding from the soil.

A riser attaches the water & aeration loop to the drain grate. The water & aeration loop is installed around the rootball of the tree. The loop carries water directly to the tree's roots. In addition, oxygen can flow into the loop to aerate the soil and roots.

A tree's roots are packaged in a wire basket and burlap at the nursery. These items are removed from the top 2/3 of the rootball to allow the tree's roots to grow into the surrounding soil.

The existing soil in most tree pits tends to be poor in nutrients. This soil is removed from the pit and a soil mix is added.

Street-Tree Pit Details